

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A rate and power control algorithm for a communication system, the algorithm including the steps of: assigning a target channel condition metric to be met at a first terminal for signaling received from each of one or more remote terminals of the system, each terminal supporting a plurality of rates and a plurality of transmit power levels, each target channel condition metric based upon the type of service supported by each remote terminal; receiving a signal at the first terminal from each remote terminal; and adjusting a respective target channel condition metric assigned for a respective remote terminal in response to signal information generated from the received signal. In variations, the algorithm is performed in a distributed manner by different cells of a communication system and at least two of the remote terminals support traffic of different types of service.